

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended)

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An axle suspension system for a load-bearing vehicle including first and second longitudinally extending frame members having rearward and forward ends, comprising:

5 first and second mounting brackets secured to said first and second frame members, respectively;

a first lower control arm, having forward and rearward ends, pivotally secured at its said forward end to said first mounting bracket and extending rearwardly therefrom;

10 a second lower control arm, having forward and rearward ends, pivotally secured at its said forward end to said second mounting bracket and extending rearwardly therefrom;

first and second axle supports positioned rearwardly of said first and second mounting brackets, respectively;

15 said rearward end of said first lower control ~~rod~~arm being pivotally secured to said first axle support;

said rearward end of said second lower control ~~rod~~arm being pivotally secured to said second axle support;

20 an axle and wheel assembly operatively secured to said first and second axle supports; first and second air springs operatively secured to said axle and wheel assembly; and a stabilizer bar assembly including an elongated, generally transversely extending base portion having first and second generally forwardly extending end portions at the opposite ends thereof;

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1 said end portions having forward ends;

2 said first and second forwardly extending end portions of said stabilizer bar assembly
3 being pivotally connected at their said forward ends to said first and second
4 mounting brackets, respectively, above said first and second lower control
5 ~~rods~~arms, respectively;

6 said base portion of said stabilizer bar assembly being pivotally connected to said first
7 and second axle supports above said first and second lower control ~~rods~~arms.

8 2. (Original)

9 The structure of claim 1 wherein resilient bushings pivotally connect said base
10 portion of said stabilizer bar assembly to said first and second axle supports.

11 3. (Original)

12 The structure of claim 1 wherein said first generally forwardly extending end
13 portion of said stabilizer bar assembly extends outwardly from said first axle support,
14 thence forwardly, thence inwardly and forwardly, and thence forwardly towards said first
15 mounting bracket and wherein said second generally forwardly extending end portion of
16 said stabilizer bar assembly extends outwardly from said second axle support, thence
17 forwardly, thence inwardly and forwardly, and thence forwardly towards said second
18 mounting bracket.
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20 4. (Original)

21 The structure of claim 3 wherein said base portion of said stabilizer bar assembly
22 extends inwardly and forwardly from its pivotal connection with said first axle support,
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1 thence inwardly, thence outwardly and rearwardly to its pivotal connection with said
second axle support.

5. (Original)

5 The suspension of claim 1 wherein said base portion of said stabilizer bar
assembly extends inwardly and forwardly from its pivotal connection with said first axle
support, thence inwardly, thence outwardly and rearwardly to its pivotal connection with
said second axle support.

6. (Currently Amended)

10 An axle suspension system for a load-bearing vehicle including first and second
longitudinally extending frame members having rearward and forward ends, comprising:
first and second mounting brackets secured to said first and second frame members,
respectively;

a first upper control arm, having forward and rearward ends, pivotally secured at its said

15 forward end to said first mounting bracket and extending rearwardly therefrom;

a second upper control arm, having forward and rearward ends, pivotally secured at its

said forward end to said second mounting bracket and extending rearwardly
therefrom;

20 first and second axle supports positioned rearwardly of said first and second mounting
brackets, respectively;

said rearward end of said first upper control ~~rod~~arm being pivotally secured to said first
axle support;

1 said rearward end of said second upper control ~~rod~~arm being pivotally secured to said
second axle support;

an axle and wheel assembly operatively secured to said first and second axle supports;

first and second air springs operatively secured to said axle and wheel assembly;

5 and a stabilizer bar assembly including an elongated, generally transversely extending
base portion having first and second generally forwardly extending end portions
at the opposite ends thereof;

said end portions having forward ends;

10 said first and second forwardly extending end portions of said stabilizer bar assembly
being pivotally connected at their said forward ends to said first and second
mounting brackets, respectively, below said first and second upper control
~~rods~~arms, respectively;

15 said base portion of said stabilizer bar assembly being pivotally connected to said first
and second axle supports below said first and second upper control ~~rods~~arms.

7. (Original)

The structure of claim 6 wherein resilient bushings pivotally connect said base
portion of said stabilizer bar assembly to said first and second axle supports.